

2009 CalVet Women Veterans Conference

*Continuing Our Legacy:
Telling Our Stories*

September 11 - 12

Sheraton Gateway Los Angeles Hotel





Barbara Ward

Deputy Secretary, Women and Minority Veterans Affairs



As Deputy Secretary for Women and Minority Veterans Affairs, I welcome each of you to our second annual conference for California's women veterans. I am so excited to provide a program this year that is responsive to the feedback we received from last year's conference participants.

Our goal is to serve the needs of women veterans by enhancing our conference program, connecting women veterans with resources, providing the latest updates on benefits and establishing a communications network with fellow women veterans and service providers. We also endeavor to give each of you a voice and an opportunity to share your concerns with legislators and their staff so they can hear from you directly. As we strive to constantly honor and recognize the vast contributions women have made to our nation and continue to make, we will present our first two Woman Veteran of the Year Awards, one for Southern and one for Northern California, during a dinner banquet, to symbolize our sincere appreciation to all women who serve and have served.

Our conference planning committee's hope is that you enjoy the two-day conference and take away valuable information that can be shared with other women veterans in your networks. As always, our annual conference is a true labor of love that honors and recognizes the contributions of all of us who share the common bond of serving our country. Thank you for participating in *Continuing Our Legacy: Telling Our Stories*.

Welcome Home and thank you for your service!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Ward". The script is fluid and cursive.

Barbara Ward
Deputy Secretary
Women and Minority Veterans Affairs

Roger Brautigan

Acting Secretary, California Department of Veterans Affairs



On behalf of the California Department of Veterans Affairs, I welcome you to Los Angeles and to this year's CalVet Women Veterans Conference.

California is home to approximately 164,000 women veterans. The California Department of Veterans Affairs, recognizing the changing role of women in the military, has organized this conference to bring women veterans together to share information, stories, and camaraderie and help address issues specific to you. Among its other goals, this conference is designed to empower those women who selflessly donned our nation's military uniform and fought bravely alongside their male counterparts to defend and preserve the greatness of our nation.

I applaud your commitment and dedication to our great Nation and wish you good luck for an informational, enjoyable, and successful conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Brautigan", followed by a horizontal line.

Roger Brautigan
Acting Secretary
California Department of
Veterans Affairs



GOVERNOR ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER

September 11, 2009

CalVet Women Veterans Conference 2009

It is a pleasure to extend my greetings to everyone gathered for the CalVet Women Veterans Conference 2009, "Continuing Our Legacy: Telling Our Stories."

California is extremely proud to be home to so many outstanding women veterans, and I am grateful for your contributions to our wonderful military legacy. Your brave sacrifices have ensured the safety of our great state and nation. I commend your courageous actions which have maintained the freedoms we hold dear.

On behalf of your fellow Californians, I thank you for your lasting dedication to our country. Your commitment to duty both at home and abroad is a source of inspiration for all Americans, and I hope that you find this meeting to be both informative and fun.

Additionally, my congratulations go to the two Women Veterans of the Year. They both deserve a big hand for their fantastic accomplishments.

Please accept my best wishes for a terrific event and every future success.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger



MARIA SHRIVER

California Department of Veteran Affairs
2009 CalVet Women Veterans Conference

September 11 & 12, 2009
Los Angeles, California

I am thrilled to welcome you to the second annual CalVet Women Veterans Conference! I applaud the efforts of the California Department of Veteran Affairs in bringing together such an extraordinary group to address the important issues of California's women veterans.

California women are trailblazers in everything they do and female veterans and members of our armed forces are certainly deserving of this recognition. Your remarkable strength, courage and fortitude are truly inspiring and serve as a model for so many women, young and old, throughout our state. This conference will offer women veterans the opportunity to learn more about resources, useful information, networking and employment options that are not only available, but beneficial. I am confident that great things will come from this event and all of you involved will be empowered to continue to positively change our world.

Best wishes for an amazing conference and every future success!

Best,

Maria Shriver

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Agenda



Agenda - Day One

SEPTEMBER 11

8:00 – 9:00	Registration & Breakfast
9:00 – 9:45	Opening Ceremony Welcome - Barbara Ward, <i>CalVet Deputy Secretary for Women and Minority Veterans Affairs</i> Invocation - Chaplain Robert Johnson Posting of Colors - Fresno Women's Color Guard Pledge of Allegiance National Anthem - Evelyn Caprice-Clark Greetings Roger Brautigan, <i>CalVet Acting Secretary</i> Antonio Villaraigosa, <i>Mayor of Los Angeles</i>
9:45 – 10:30	Tina Lifford – <i>Waking Up Fabulous</i>
10:30 – 10:45	Break
10:45 – Noon	Changing Trends for Military Women Panel
Noon – 1:30	Lunch / Keynote Speaker: Dr. Irene Trowell-Harris – <i>Now that You Have Served, Let Us Serve You Now</i>
1:30 – 2:30	Workshops <i>VA Women Veterans Assistance & Services</i> <i>Preparing for Transitioning into the Workforce</i> <i>Women Veterans Benefits Overview</i> <i>Women's Health and Wellness</i>
2:30 – 2:45	Break

- 2:45 – 3:45 Donna Washington, MD, MPH – *Women Veterans' Access to Healthcare*
- 3:45 – 4:15 Kayla Williams – Author, *Love My Rifle More Than You: Young and Female in the U.S. Army*
- 4:15 – 4:30 Drawing
- 4:30 – 5:00 Lisa Foster & Scott Vince – *California Women Veterans Survey Results. "California's Women Veterans: The Challenges and Needs of Those Who Served"*
- Dinner / Women Veterans of the Year Awards
Keynote Speaker: Brigadier General Wilma L. Vaught
- *Women In Military Service For America Memorial Foundation, Inc.*

Agenda - Day Two

SEPTEMBER 12

8:00 – 9:00	Registration & Breakfast
9:00 – 10:00	Chellie Campbell, Financial Expert – <i>Eliminating Debt and Enjoying Life</i>
10:00 – 11:00	Lori Katz, MD – <i>Mental Health Disorders</i>
11:00 – 11:15	Break
11:15 – 12:30	Workshops <i>VA Women Veterans Assistance & Services</i> <i>Preparing for Transitioning into the Workforce</i> <i>Women Veterans Benefits Overview</i> <i>Women's health and Wellness</i>
12:30 – 1:30	Lunch
1:30 – 3:00	Open Forum with Legislators
3:00 – 3:15	Break
3:15 – 4:30	Workshops <i>VA Women Veterans Assistance & Services</i> <i>Preparing for Transitioning into the Workforce</i> <i>Women Veterans Benefits Overview</i> <i>Women's health and Wellness</i>
4:30 – 4:45	Drawing
4:45	Closing Ceremony Evaluations

Workshops

VA HEALTH CARE SERVICES

Lisa Roybal, *VA Women Veterans
Program Manager*
Gina Rawson, *VA Women Veterans
Program Manager*
Callie Wight, *VA Women Veterans
Program Manager*
Leslie Satz, *VA Women Veterans
Program Manager*

PREPARING FOR TRANSITIONING INTO THE WORKFORCE

*This workshop will cover how to land
a job.*

Marya Bloodsaw, *PG&E*
Robert Dutton, *DeVry University*

WOMEN VETERANS BENEFITS OVERVIEW

*This workshop will cover veteran's
benefits and what's available to you
as a veteran.*

Linda Benoit
Jan Wald, *Sacramento County
Veterans Service Office*

WOMEN'S HEALTH AND WELLNESS

*This workshop will cover a variety
of topics regarding women's health
including cancer, heart disease,
osteoporosis, and nutrition for
women.*

Dr. Lori Katz, *Women's Mental
Health Center at the VA Long
Beach*



Biographies



Chellie Campbell



Chellie Campbell is a former musical comedy actress, past owner of a business management firm with thirteen employees, creator of the popular *Financial Stress Reduction® Workshops* now taught by certified Coaches throughout the country. Author of *The Wealthy Spirit* and *Zero to Zillionaire*, both published by Sourcebooks, Inc., she is one of Marci Shimoff's "Happy 100" in her NYT bestseller *Happy for No Reason*, quoted as a "Financial Guru" in James Arthur Ray's NYT bestseller *Harmonic Wealth*, and contributed stories to Jack Canfield's recent books *You've Got to Read This Book!* and *Life Lessons from Chicken Soup for the Soul*.

Her popular *Financial Stress Reduction® Workshop* has inspired clients like Northrop, the Small Business Administration, the National Association of Women Business Owners, and her talk for the Screen Actors Guild was a sellout success. A past president of the Los Angeles Chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners and Rotarian of the Year, she was voted "Most Inspirational Speaker" by Women in Management and Speaker of the Year by the Association of Women Entrepreneurs. For "30 Days to a Wealthy Spirit" daily inspirational emails and other information, visit her web site www.Chellie.com or email her at Chellie@Chellie.com.

Irene Trowell-Harris, R.N., Ed.D.

Director, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Center for Women Veterans

Dr. Irene Trowell-Harris was nominated to be Director of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Center for Women Veterans in June 2001 and approved by the White House on October 2, 2001. In this role, she is the primary advisor to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on programs, legislation and issues related to women Veterans.

Dr. Trowell-Harris served 38 years in the U.S. Air Force and Air National Guard, retiring as a Major General in September 2001. During her military career, she held numerous senior executive positions.

Gen Trowell-Harris is a graduate of Columbia Hospital School of Nursing, Jersey City State College, where she earned a bachelor's degree with honors in health education. She earned a master's degree in public health from Yale University and a doctorate in education from Teachers College, Columbia University.

A recipient of numerous military awards and decorations, Gen Trowell-Harris was the first African-American female in the history of the National Guard to be promoted to general officer. She is also the first to have a mentoring award named in her honor and to have a Tuskegee Airmen, Inc., Chapter named in her honor.

Dr. Trowell-Harris received the VA Outstanding and Invaluable Service to the Community Award, Outstanding Performance Award, Congressional Recognition, Office of Inspector General performance awards, and special recognition from VA Central Office Federal Women's Program Committee.



Lori Katz, Ph.D



Lori Katz, Ph.D. received her Bachelor's degree at the University of California, Berkeley, and her double major Ph.D. at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. She completed her internship at the VA Long Beach Healthcare System in 1992 and has been there ever since! She is the Founder/Director of the Women's Mental Health Center at the VA Long Beach and Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of California, Irvine.

As a VA field expert on sexual trauma, she has testified before the US Congress and worked with the Department of Defense to write policies for victims of sexual assault in the US military. She has held various leadership positions such as Chair of the Board of Directors for the non-profit Sexual Assault Crisis Agency, Chair of the sexual trauma team then Military Sexual Trauma coordinator, and Co-chair of the Employee Satisfaction Committee.

She is the author of *Holographic Reprocessing: A cognitive-experiential psychotherapy to treat trauma* (Katz, 2005).

Tina Lifford

Executive Director of *Waking Up Fabulous™*

Tina Lifford is a familiar face on TV, currently starring in the ABC Family hit series *Lincoln Heights*. Her roles in Hollywood blockbuster films have placed her along side Clint Eastwood, Jennifer Garner, Bruce Willis and Danny Glover.

Respected and admired for her incredible work on screen, now she's added another dimension to her successful career: Executive Director of *Waking Up Fabulous™* workshops and retreats. *Waking Up Fabulous™* is where women bond, build and nurture a relationship with "SELF," erase hurt from the past and fill life with comfort and joy. *Waking Up Fabulous™* helps women build lives they love to live. "When you know yourself you are empowered. When you accept yourself you are invincible!" Tina also designs and facilitates Leadership and Employee Enrichment programs for corporations and organizations. She has worked with Fortune 100 giant the Disney Co and National and local Women's membership organizations such as Sisters Network and Moste. Tina Lifford donates her time to youth organizations and schools.



Maureen M. Pennington

Captain, Nurse Corps, United States Navy, Director, Naval Medical Center San Diego



A native of Naples, Maine, Captain Pennington earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1986 from Saint Joseph's College. The same year she began active naval service as a Staff Nurse at Naval Hospital, Newport, Rhode Island.

Following her Newport duty Captain Pennington was accepted into the Navy's Perioperative Training Course. Completing training she reported to Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, VA as the charge nurse of Neurosurgery. During this assignment she deployed for 8 months on the USNS Comfort TAH-20 in support of Operation Desert Storm/Desert Shield. During this deployment, she developed the skills required for operational medicine and her passion for working within the multinational healthcare system. Over the next 7 years she was accepted for annual volunteer missions with Operation Smile to developing countries providing healthcare to children. While assigned in Virginia she completed her Masters of Nursing Administration at Old Dominion University.

Her follow on tours were: Naval Hospital Sigonella, Italy as Department Head of Main Operating Room (DEC 97-NOV02), Naval Hospital 29 Palms, CA as Department Head of Primary Care (NOV02-SEP04) and Naval Medical Center San Diego, Department Head Main Operating Room, Senior Nurse, Directorate Medical Services and the Command Black Belt Program Coordinator. (SEP04-JUL09)

During Commander Pennington's assignment at Naval Medical Center she volunteered for assignment and deployment to Iraq as Company Commander of Charlie Health Services Company 1st Medical Battalion,

1st MLG (fwd) for 7 months. CAPT Pennington is currently assigned as the Senior Nurse Executive, and the Director of Nursing and Surgical Services at Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms, California.

She is certified by the Certification Board of Perioperative Nursing. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau, President of the San Diego Operating Room Nurses Association and a Member of the Nominating and Leadership Development Committee at the national level of AORN. She is the recipient of the Bronze Star, 3 Navy Commendation Medals, 2 Navy Achievement Medals, the Combat Action Medal and various other ribbons and campaign medals. She also achieved designation as a Fleet Marine Force Qualified Officer. Civilian awards include 2007 Minerva Award presented by First Lady Maria Shriver for service during Operation Iraqi Freedom and 7 world wide humanitarian medical missions and the Spirit of the Immortal Chaplains Award presented to individuals who exemplify the spirit of compassion for others regardless of difference in faith or ethnicity.

Captain Pennington is married to Dan Pennington. They have two children: Travis 28 and Grace 17.

Jae Lee Ramirez

Jae Lee Ramirez was born in Incheon, South Korea and grew up in the Twin Cities, MN. She attended the University of Minnesota for a couple of years before enlisting in the United States Coast Guard after 9/11.

Jae Ramirez spent her first tour at Air Station Sacramento, Ca before attending A-school to train as a Marine Science Technician. Upon graduation from A-school Petty Officer Ramirez was assigned to Marine Safety Office Milwaukee, WI where she protected the environment by responding to reports of oil pollution, conducted positive control boardings on foreign freight vessels and initialized the enforcement of Marine Transportation Security Act 2002 on regulated facilities.

She then continued on to the Marine Safety and Security Team 91105 in San Francisco, CA, where she qualified as a Level II Tactical Boat Crew, Boarding Team Member and emergency medical technician. She also conducted security patrols, security zone enforcement, vessel escorts and counter drug operations.

Her next tour of duty was Marine Safety Detachment Victoria, TX. Here, she was involved with pollution response, marine law enforcement, marine casualty response, foreign vessel exams and facility inspections.

Currently, PO Ramirez serves her country diligently; keeping the Port of Los Angeles/Long Beach, CA safe by conducted safety and security exams on the visiting foreign vessels. She is also in charge of supervising nine other Petty Officers.

Throughout her seven and a half years of enlistment, she has been stationed across the country learning valuable life lessons and actively

participating in her community, with the goal of one day gaining a commission in the United States Coast Guard. She is currently working towards her Bachelors of Science in Environmental Studies and wishes to continue on to graduate school. Jae Ramirez is married to Salvador Ramirez, an Engineman First Class, in the United States Navy.

Wilma L. Vaught

Brigadier General



Brigadier General Wilma L. Vaught, USAF, Retired, is President of the Board of Directors of the Women In Military Service For America Memorial Foundation, Inc.

Her last military assignment was as Commander of the US Military Entrance Processing Command, North Chicago, IL, where she served from June 1982, until her retirement in August 1985.

She is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Women's History Museum and the Pentagon Federal Credit Union Foundation and serves on the Virginia War Memorial Foundation Board of Trustees. Following retirement, she worked as a consultant with the Strategic Defense Initiative Organization as well as with industry. She speaks around the United States on leadership and management. She is a frequent guest on radio and television programs.

A native of Illinois, General Vaught earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana from which she received the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award in 1983; she also holds a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, and an Honorary Doctorate of Public Affairs from Columbia College, SC. She is the first Air Force woman graduate of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

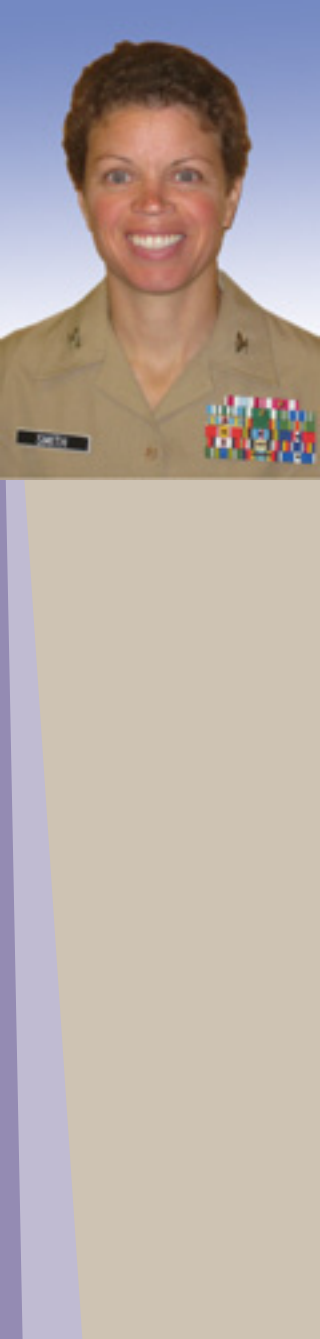
During her military career, she held various positions in the comptroller field at Barksdale AFB, LA; Zaragoza AFB, Spain; McCoy AFB, Orlando, FL; Headquarters, Military Assistance Command, Saigon, Vietnam; Air Force Logistics Command, Wright Patterson AFB, Dayton, OH; the Air

Staff, the Pentagon, Washington, DC; and she was the Deputy Chief of Staff, Comptroller, Air Force Systems Command, Andrews AFB, MD. General Vaught served as Chairperson of the NATO Women in the Allied Forces Committee from 1983 to 1985 and was the senior woman military representative to the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services from 1982 to 1985.

Her numerous military decorations and awards include both the Defense and Air Force Distinguished Service Medals, Air Force Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Vietnam Service Medal with four service stars, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with palm and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Stephanie C. Smith

Colonel



Colonel Smith is a 23 year Marine Corps veteran currently serving as the Commanding Officer, Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Recruit Depot and Western Recruiting Region, San Diego, CA.

She is a veteran of Operations Restore Hope in Somalia, Joint Guardian in Kosovo, Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Iraqi Freedom in Fallujah, Iraq. She is married to Tony Bumgarner (LtCol USMC Ret) and has two children.

Donna L. Washington, M.D., MPH

Dr. Washington is a General Internal Medicine Physician and Health Services Researcher at VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System (GLANS), is the Women's Health and Equity Strategic Planning Area Lead for the VA GLAHS Health Services Research and Development (HSR&D) Center of Excellence, affiliated investigator with the UCLA National Center of Excellence in Women's Health, and Associate Professor of Medicine at UCLA. Dr. Washington's research focuses on women's health, and racial-ethnic and gender disparities in access and quality of health care.

Dr. Washington has worked extensively on understanding access issues in the VA, and is a nationally recognized expert in women veterans' health care. She is the principal investigator on the 2008-2009 National Survey of Women Veterans, and on the Women Veterans' Ambulatory Care Use Project phase II.

Dr. Washington is a graduate of Harvard-Radcliffe Colleges, Boston University School of Medicine, UCLA School of Public Health, and the Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program at UCLA, and was the recipient of a Robert Wood Johnson Minority Medical Faculty Development Program award, and a VA HSR&D Research Career Development Award. Dr. Washington is on the national council for the Society of General Internal Medicine, is a member of the Department of Health & Human Services' Office on Women's Health panel of experts on minority women's health, and was guest editor for the *Journal of General Internal Medicine's Special Issue on VA Women's Health Research* that was published in 2006.



Kayla Williams



Kayla Williams is a former sergeant and Arabic linguist in a Military Intelligence company of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). During her year in Iraq, Ms. Williams spent her time at the forefront of U.S. interactions with Iraqis, while simultaneously navigating the challenges that come with being part of the 15 percent of the Army that is female. Kayla is the author of *Love My Rifle More Than You: Young and Female in the U.S. Army*, a memoir of her experiences negotiating the changing demands on today's military.

Ms. Williams graduated cum laude with a BA in English Literature from Bowling Green State University, and earned her Masters in International Affairs with a focus on the Middle East from American University. Kayla is a Truman National Security Fellow, sits on the Board of Directors of Grace After Fire, and blogs on VetVoice.com.

She currently lives near Washington, D.C. with her husband Brian McGough, a fellow veteran.

Alice Astafan

California Veterans Board

Alice Astafan serves as the President and CEO of Astafan & Associates who provide advice and support to government, education and industry.

Since February 2008, she has served as the Chairperson of the California Veterans Board working issues on behalf of the 2.1 million veterans in the state. General Astafan's military service consisted of thirty-plus years of hands-on leadership experience in positions of ever-increasing responsibility from Second lieutenant to Major General.

During part of her United States Air Force career she was the highest ranking woman military officer in the nation. She retired from the United States Air Force in 1998.



Mary Kight

Brigadier General



Brigadier General Mary Kight the Assistant Adjutant General for the California National Guard. She serves as a military assistant and advisor to The Adjutant General for Army and Air National Guard matters in the state of California.

After graduating from California State University, Chico, General Kight enlisted in the active duty Air Force and received her commission in 1974. She had a successful career as a Personnel Officer at Fairchild AFB, Spokane, Washington, followed by an assignment with the Department of the Army. She ended her initial active duty career at Headquarters Strategic Air Command (SAC), Omaha, Nebraska.

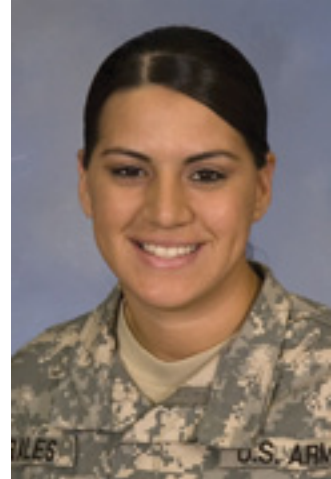
Diane Morales

Sergeant

As a Human Resource NCO assigned to Joint Force Headquarters-Army Division, Sgt. Morales is responsible for processing required Soldier personnel data accurately and in a timely fashion, as well as maintaining accountability of assigned, attached, and other personnel, including civilians, who are assigned or attached with the Army Division directorate.

She assists the Army Division XO in the execution of required EPS actions to include awards, evaluations, personnel actions, promotion boards. She ensures timely personnel accountability in compliance with local, theater, Army policies, and update Soldier records as required.

She ensures activities support tactical plans, their branches and sequels, and the commander's desired end-state. Coordinate with higher headquarters to obtain external Human Resource support.



Lisa Roybal

Women's Health Nurse Practitioner



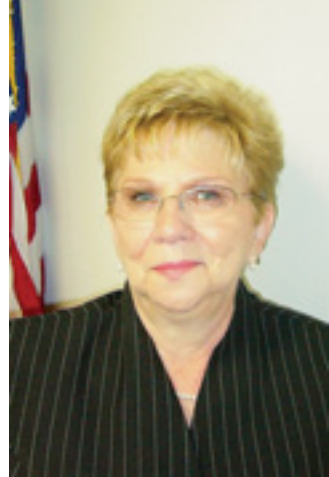
Lisa Roybal retired from the United States Navy in 2004. She was commissioned immediately after receiving her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Loretto Heights College, Denver Colorado in 1984.

During her 20 years of service she was assigned to 8 duty stations and had 12 appointed jobs. One of the highlights of her career was serving aboard the USNS Comfort during Desert Shield. Lisa has dedicated over sixteen years of her career to women's health care. In 1998 she received a Master of Science in Nursing from Pacific Lutheran University as a Women's Health Nurse Practitioner. Lisa has an extensive background in all aspects of women's health care. Currently she is the Women Veterans Program Manager for VA Loma Linda Healthcare System. She is dedicated to serving the women veteran population as a program manager and provider.

Jan Wald Baldwin

Sacramento County Veteran Services

Jan Wald Baldwin is currently an employee of Sacramento County Veteran Services. Jan's primary goal is to assist veterans and their families in gaining the ability and knowledge to access the Veterans Administration system for all of their benefit and health care needs. She was also appointed as a member of the Interagency Council to End Homelessness in Sacramento County in December 2006. Mrs. Wald Baldwin is also a Co-chairperson for the Veterans Community Support Network (VCSN). The VCSN was established February 2007. Jan started with Sacramento County as an Eligibility Worker in 2002. Jan was also an Administrator for Home Health Agency, Medical Administrative Instructor, Medi-Cal Local Educational Agency instructor and Office Manager for a computer store prior to coming to the county.



Elaine Suranie

Critical Care Respiratory Therapist

Elaine Suranie works full time as a Critical Care Respiratory Therapist in a county hospital.

She has also worked in Christian television from 1974 to the mid 1995. She wrote and co-hosted a live Saturday morning show, *Kids Praise The Lord*, for Trinity Broadcasting Network, then later spent several years co-producing Lloyd John Ogilvie's Sunday show, *Let God Love You*, until he was appointed Chaplain of the United States Senate in 1995.

She has written, directed, and/or acted in several stage productions in Hollywood, has studied acting with Lucille Ball, Shelly Winters, Martin Landau and Salome Jens. She co-produced the stage version of, *The Arcata Promise*, starring Anthony Hopkins, was the assistant director of the Emmy winning children's special, *Peter and The Wolf*, and in 1999 she co-produced a concert and video tribute to NASA and JPL at The Hollywood Bowl entitled, *From The Bowl to the Moon!*

For the 2004 World AIDS DAY she was featured in the television special, *Here to Remember*, reflecting on memories of her brother, Henry. She has taught seminars on coping with stress, seeking spiritual connection, and acting.

She is a founding member of the Gay Polo League-Los Angeles Chapter, is an active public speaker for GLIDE - Gays and Lesbians Initiating Dialogue for Equality, and she has a short story entitled, *The Good Girl*, published in Katherine Martin's book, *Women of Spirit*.

Leslie Satz

Nurse Practitioner/Women Veterans Program Manager

Leslie Satz provides primary care to military veterans. Initiated the Women's Program to provide enhance the care of women veterans. Is a member of the VA National Sexual Trauma Task Force. Helped initiate and develop the Firm Comprehensive Women's Clinic. Leslie provides in-service training of women's health issues to staff including medical staff, medical residents and nursing service.

Initiated and continue to participate and promote research involving women's health, particularly of issues related to the history of sexual trauma and health.

Mary Wiberg

Executive Director, State of California Commission on the Status of Women

Since October 3, 2001, Mary M. Wiberg has been the Executive Director of the State of California Commission on the Status of Women. The Commission on the Status of Women, a nonpartisan state agency, works in a culturally inclusive manner to promote equality and justice for all women and girls by advocating on their behalf with the Governor, the Legislature and other public policymakers, and by educating the public in the areas of economic equity including educational equity, access to health care including reproductive choice, violence against women and other key issue areas identified by the Commission as significantly affecting women and girls.

Callie Wight, RN, MA

Registered Nurse

Callie Wight is a registered nurse with Master's Degrees in Human Development and in Psychology. She began her career with the Veterans Administration in 1990, at the Sepulveda Viet Nam Veterans Center where she counseled Viet Nam combat veterans with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. In 1994, she transferred to the Comprehensive

Women Veteran's Healthcare Program at the Sepulveda campus of the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System. From 1994 until recently, she provided psychosocial counseling to women veterans, especially those who have experienced sexual trauma while on active duty military service. Since the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, Callie has also counseled women with combat zone PTSD.

Ms. Wight currently serves as the Women Veterans Program Manager at Sepulveda Ambulatory Care Center.

She has been involved in several national workgroups that have focused on enhancing the quality of full and comprehensive healthcare services to women veterans in the VHA.

Rob Dutton

Rob Dutton is a native of Baltimore, Maryland and after graduation from high school he attended University of Maryland – College Park on a tennis scholarship. After two years he entered the United States Army and served 22 years. Retired Master Sergeant Dutton, used his educational benefits to achieve a BBA & MBA Degree from American InterContinental University and BS Degree and MPA Webster University.

Rob's passion stems from the words of his mother: "that as long as you're living you need to be learning, and the more you learn the more you earn." Rob Dutton's journey began private education serving a Manager of Recruitment, Director of Recruitment, Director of International Admissions and now currently serving a Regional Military Affairs Manager for the California & Mountain Region with DeVry University. Rob Dutton has been accepted to attend Fielding Graduate School to pursue his Doctorate Degree in Human Organizational Management.

Ann Thraikill

Women Veterans Program Manager, Palo Alto VA Medical Health Center

Gina Rawson

Women Veterans Program Manager, Long Beach VA Medical Health Center



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WEST CARE

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www.westcare.com

U.S VETS

U.S. VETS provides housing in conjunction with clinical counseling and employment assistance. Additionally, coordinating services with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and other partners brings in resources that foster the skills necessary for every veteran to return to the community, remain self-sufficient, and break the cycle of homelessness.

www.usvetsinc.org

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE WOMEN VETERANS COORDINATORS (NASWVC)

The purpose of the NASWVC is to exchange ideas, information and training. To facilitate reciprocal service for women veterans, to secure uniformity, equality and effectiveness in providing these services to women veterans. To identify issues of concern to the women veterans community, and develop recommendations to address these concerns through legislative, programmatic, and outreach activities.

www.naswvc.com

CALIFORNIA VETERANS BENEFITS FUND (VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA)

The specific purpose of this Corporation is for public charitable purposes. This Corporation is organized exclusively for charitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as now in effect or hereafter amended. The purpose or purposes for which the Corporation is organized is to provide education, direction, and assistance to veterans and their families located throughout California. The Corporation shall provide education and assistance to veterans and their families through veteran service benefits officers located in California. The Corporation shall also fund certain programs provided by other tax exempt veteran service organizations to provide direct benefit education, and other assistance to California veterans. *www.cavbf.org*

THE AMERICAN LEGION HOLLYWOOD CHAPTER

The American Legion was chartered by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic, war-time veterans organization, devoted to mutual helpfulness. It is a not-for-profit community-service organization which now numbers nearly 3 million members, men and women, in nearly 15,000 American Legion posts worldwide. *www.hollywoodpost43.org*

WOMEN OF THE AMERICAN GI FORUM

The American GI Forum today continues to be a beacon of hope and an avenue for involvement for the returning veteran and/or the ordinary citizen aspiring to improve conditions within his own community. Local, State and National Conferences continue to promote and move forward an agenda put forth in 1948 for the betterment of all citizens and by the American GI Forum. *www.agif.org*

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS POST 6 SACRAMENTO

The 1.2 million-member Disabled American Veterans (DAV) is a non-profit 501(c)(4) charity dedicated to building better lives for America's disabled veterans and their families. The DAV was founded in 1920 by disabled veterans returning from World War I to represent their unique interests. In 1932, the DAV was congressionally chartered as the official voice of the nation's wartime disabled veterans. www.dav.org

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS POST 9 YUBA CITY

The 1.2 million-member Disabled American Veterans (DAV) is a non-profit 501(c)(4) charity dedicated to building better lives for America's disabled veterans and their families. The DAV was founded in 1920 by disabled veterans returning from World War I to represent their unique interests. In 1932, the DAV was congressionally chartered as the official voice of the nation's wartime disabled veterans. www.dav.org

CALVET VETFUND

The VetFund was established to allow the Secretary of the California Department of Veterans Affairs to accept non-specific donations from individuals, companies and organizations that want to help and support the veterans of California. Through this fund the Secretary can and does support programs in communities around the state that directly benefit veterans and active duty personnel or their families. Some of the special projects supported by this fund include upgrades of veterans memorials, stand-downs and other homeless veteran programs, care-packages for troops, and special events on Veterans Day and Memorial Day.

www.cdva.ca.gov/VetFund/Default.aspx

Special Thanks

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE:

Barbara Ward

Chair, California Department of Veterans Affairs

Jaime Arteaga

California Department of Veterans Affairs

Yvette Kelley

California Department of Veterans Affairs

Mary Wiberg

California Commission on the Status of Women

Elaine Suranie

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California Legislative Women's Caucus

Seanna Herring-Jensen

West Care

Liz Fuller

Senior Aide, Assembly women Lori Saldana

Linda Benoit

Veterans Administration Regional Office



Special Thanks

One Call Medical

Health Education Council

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Disabled American Veterans, Marysville Chapter 9

Fresno Women's Color Guard

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Sara Felix

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